



Nevada

Hawthorne Army Depot

Facility and Location

Hawthorne Army Depot (HWAD) is located in Mineral County, approximately 140 miles southeast of Reno. The depot covers an area of approximately 150,000 acres and encloses three sides of the town of Hawthorne. The mission of HWAD is to receive, issue, store, renovate, inspect, demilitarize, and dispose of conventional ammunition. HWAD is a government-owned, contractor-operated (GOCO) facility, operated by Day and Zimmermann Hawthorne Corporation. The installation was originally constructed in 1928 as a Naval Ammunition Depot. The early mission of the depot was to store, service, and issue ammunition to the Pacific Area. Following World War II, the depot was actively involved in the demolition of various types of ammunition. The depot's role was expanded to include receiving, renovating, loading, maintaining, storing, and issuing ammunition, explosives, expendable ordnance items, and/or weapons and technical ordnance materials. The depot was used to test weapons and dispose of unserviceable and/or dangerous ammunition and explosives.

In 1977, the depot transferred to the Army and was renamed Hawthorne Army Ammunition Plant (HWAAP). After the transfer, it was redesignated a GOCO Plant in 1980 and began operating under the direction of the former Day and Zimmermann Basil Corporation. Its mission from 1980 to 1994 was to receive, produce, assemble, load, issue, store, renovate, inspect, test demilitarize, and dispose of conventional ammunition; operate and maintain in operational readiness cast and fuel-air explosive loading plants, rocket assemble plants, and medium/major caliber assembly lines; provide special/experimental high explosive casting, extruding, and pressing; fuel air explosive loading; and support services to designated research and development activities; provide storage facilities for war reserve ammunition; and maintain designated ammunition in a state of readiness for mobilization, including assembling or otherwise providing base unit materials; and conduct testing of solid propelled munitions, high explosive warheads, mechanical and electronic fuses, cartridge cases, primers, rocket motors, and other ballistic devices. In 1994, HWAAP was renamed HWAD and was designated as a Tier II, or caretaker, ammunition facility.

Media Sampled and Findings

Drinking Water — In 2007, one sample reported no detection.

Groundwater — In 2007, four samples reported no detection.

Appropriate Actions

Not Applicable. All samples were below the EPA and DoD Preliminary Remediation Goal of 15 ppb.